

Knoxville August 17th 1848

Prof. Asa Gray Cambridge.

Dear Sir

At the time I gave to Mr Gibbon a package of Tennessee plants I was indeed afraid that my careless determination would come under your notice. *Rhynchospora lanuolata* pro *R. gracilis* was a very hard plunder. However I am subject to a great variation of opinion in regard to species naming. Of *Phacelia bipinnatif.* and *Bellis integrifol.* I shall send you seeds. The seeds of the present year are, I fear, all gone.

Four weeks ago I started on a tour in the mountains of East Tennessee where I visited the Big Frog Mountain situated on the State line between Georgia & Tennessee and not far from the North Carolina line. The vegetation made up from very diverse species was, in the upper part of the mountain exceedingly dense and luxuriant rendering the ascent very tiresome. 6-7 feet over the average height of the Tennessees.

Lilium superbum abounded reaching a height of 7 feet.

I have counted 25 flowers on one shaft but could not see any with more. The summit is timbered with Chestnuts in full bloom at the time, with Black oak *Carpinus Am.* &c and any thing like an alpine character

of vegetation was not to be noticed at least on the summit (5000') and northern slope from which I ascended. That this region is very cold you may presume from the fact that during the night we bivouacked on the mountain a deer came to us to gaze at our campfire and in the morning before we reached the summit we saw a bear and two bats not more than 10 steps to our right. The northeastern side of mountains forms inaccessible walls & in the depth of these gorges winds the Ocoee river and along it the copper mine road through the mountains. There I found at road side, years ago (18 years!) Saxifraga Airson and Leucantheum flida &c and I had been anticipating all the time that the top of the mountain would be covered with a corresponding vegetation. The result of this expedition can not yet be given to the public but is yet, bundled up, very much in the dark. Anyhow at the foot of the mountains at Parksville I found yet in the ^{of my arrival} evening Cheilanthes fontinalis and Asplenium dentatum (sometimes not dentatum angled) and Blitum arhylla ^(?)

Piping through Lawrence in the Cumberland mountains on my return and stopping at the University a few days I collected also several yet undescribed plants, and in the evening of my

arrival I found Trichomanes radicans on wet sand rock overhanging a Spring - &c. I found but a small quantity and in spite of all searching for the next 2-3 days I could not find any more. The too frequent contact with Rhus Toxicodendron gave me an Eczema that drove me back to Nashville. On the 15th I made an excursion 25 miles South from here in the ~~the~~ Cedar Barrens at Lawrence on the Nashville and Chattanooga R.R.

I brought home Grindelia lanicollata a big supply, also from Heliotropium triflorum, Echinacea atrorubens ^(?)

Oldenlandia angustifolia (gray) Helianthus cinereus Bouteloua antipendula Lechea sp? & all of which on one spot. Here I found old and perished specimens of Calamintha glabella in such abundance that I consider the Cedar Barrens as the true home of this plant. I have found it in single specimens on the Banks of Cumberland (you will say Prunella by mistake) and Mill Creek by Nashville.

I will, as soon as time permits, make up a collection selection from all I collected this year for yourself. Presently I endeavor to use every spare moment for collecting more material. I wish to obtain your advice

